Claims

1. An isolated promoter capable of driving and/or regulating expression, comprising:
   (a) an isolated nucleic acid as given in any one of SEQ ID NO 1 to 22 or the complement of any one of SEQ ID NO 1 to 22 ; or
   (b) an isolated nucleic acid having at least 90% sequ ence identity with any of the DNA sequences as given in any one of SEQ ID NO 1 to 22; or
   (c) an isolated nucleic acid specifically hybridizing under stringent conditions with any of the DNA sequences as given in any one of SEQ ID NO 1 to 22; or
   (d) an isolated nucleic acid as defined in any one of (a) to (c), which is interrupted by an intervening sequence; or
   (e) a fragment of any of the nucleic acids as defined in (a) to (d), which fragment is capable of driving and/or regulating expression.

2. A promoter according to claim 1, which is a hybrid promote r comprising at least one part of a promoter as defined in claim 1 and further comprising another part of a promoter.

3. A genetic construct comprising:
   (a) An isolated promoter as defined in claim 1 or 2 ; and
   (b) a heterologous nucleic acid sequence operably linked to said promoter of (a); and optionally
   (c) a 3' transcription terminator.

4. An expression cassette comprising a genetic construct as defined in claim 3.

5. A transformation vector comprising a genetic construct as defined in claim 3.

6. An expression vector comprising a genetic construct as defined in claim 3.

7. A host cell comprising an isolated promoter as defined in claim 1 or 2, or genetic construct as defined in claim 3, or an expression cassette as defined in claim 4, or a transformation vector as defined in claim 5, or an expression vector as defined in claim 6.

8. Host cell according to claim 7, selected from a bacteria, algae, fungi, yeast, plant, insect and animal host cell.

9. A transgenic plant cell comprising an isolated promoter as defined in claim 1 or 2, or a genetic construct as defined in claim 3, or an expression cassette as defined in claim 4 or a transformation vector as defined in claim 5 or an expression vector as defined in claim 6.

10. Transgenic plant cell according to claim 9, which is a monocot plant cell.

11. Transgenic plant cell according to claim 10, which is a dicot plant cell.

12. A transgenic plant comprising a transgenic plant cell as defined in claim 10 or 11.

13. A transgenic plant according to claim 12, wherein said plant is selected from rice, maize, wheat, barley, millet, oats, rye, sorghum, soybean, sunflower, canola, sugarcane, alfalfa, bean, pea, flax, lupinus, rapeseed, tobacco, tomato, potato, squash, papaya, poplar and cotton.

14. Plant part, preferably a harvestable part, a propagule or progeny of a plant as defined in claim 13 or 14.

15. Method for driving and/or regulating expression of a nucleic acid in a plant or plant cell, comprising:
    (a) Operably linking said nucleic acid to any one of the isolated nucleic acids as defined in claim 1, and
    (b) Introducing the resultant genetic construct into a plant or plant cell.

16. Method according to claim 15, wherein said expression is constitutive or tissue-specific.

17. Method for the production of a transgenic plant, comprising :
    (a) Introducing into a plant cell an isolated promoter as defined in claim 1 or 2, or a genetic construct as defined in claim 3, or an expression cassette as defined in claim 4, or a transformation vector as defined in claim 5 or an expression vector as defined in claim 6, and
    (b) Cultivating said plant cell under conditions promoting plant growth.

18. Use of any of the isolated nucleic acids as defined in claim 1 to drive and/or regulate expression of an operably linked nucleic acid.